

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO LINDY WINSTON

HON. MARTIN R. HOKE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 1996

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a man from my district who personifies the American work ethic and the American spirit. Lindy Winston just retired after 41 years as a postal carrier. The outpouring of affection for this man from those who know him is truly inspirational and is a testament to his lifetime of community service.

The son of a coal miner in Boomer, WV, Lindy Winston learned early that life would not be easy. After losing his father to black lung and then losing his job when the coal mine closed, Lindy moved to Cleveland to look for a new job. "I came to Cleveland on a wing and a prayer," he said. His prayers were soon answered.

Once in Cleveland, Lindy took a job at Thompson Products—now TRW, and in December 1954 he strapped an Uncle Sam mailbag onto his back and began his new career. "On my first day as a mail man there was a cold rain," he said, "my clothes were frozen stiff."

So 41 years and 50,000 miles later he walked his last route. At his last delivery—and this was a day when the temperature was below zero, Mr. Speaker—he was met by a group of friends, family, children, and officials who held a rally in his honor. You see, Mr. Speaker, Lindy Winston was not your ordinary mailman. He was a mailman who delivered more than the mail every time he walked up your drive.

Looking back Winston states, "I never wanted to be just a mailman. It's more than just putting letters in a box. I wanted to be an ambassador. I've seen kids grow up, go to college. I've gone to their funerals. I've been their psychologist, their doctor, their lawyer."

One individual had told me that Winston, who was also a pastor in his church, "was a preacher and we became his congregation." Here's what some of the other members of his congregation had to say about him: "He's like one of the family." "He walks on water." "I hug him every time I see him, he wears Old Spice."

Lindy can look forward to enjoying his retirement with his wife Carolyn, his childhood sweetheart who he met at age 12, and his family. But, there are those who find it hard to let Lindy go, especially the children on his route who will sadly miss their friend with the mailbag who fixed their bikes, untangled kites, played catch, and brought them presents.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when our newspapers are filled with stories about scandal and crime, and when role models for our young people are harder to find, I think it is important to take time out here in the Con-

gress to recognize those in our community who are true role models and who represent what is best about our country. Lindy Winston is just such a person.

Lindy, on behalf of the hard working and compassionate people of this country I applaud you. Your love for the people in your community and the quality of service that you provided the residents of West Park, OH, can serve as an example to all of us of the good one man can do.

TRIBUTE TO EARL GRAVES, PUBLISHER, BUSINESSMAN, AND MORGAN STATE ALUMNI

HON. KWEISI MFUME

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 1996

Mr. MFUME. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Earl Graves, a nationally recognized authority on African-American business development and an alumnus of my alma mater, Morgan State University in Baltimore, MD.

On August 9, 1995, Morgan State University president Dr. Earl Richardson announced that the Morgan State School of Business and Management would be renamed the Earl G. Graves School of Business and Management. This high honor was due in part to Earl's entrepreneurial vision which has guided Black Enterprise magazine through 25 years of publishing and in part to his strong commitment to higher education.

As the publisher of Black Enterprise magazine, Earl has been one of the Nation's leading advocates for upscale black professionals, executives, entrepreneurs, and policy makers in the private and public sector. Earl has also applied much of what is discussed in his magazine to his professional life: he is the chairman and CEO of Pepsi-Cola of Washington, DC, the largest minority-controlled Pepsi-Cola franchise in the United States. The company covers a franchise territory of more than 400 square miles including Washington, DC and Prince Georges County, MD. Earl is also a General Partner of Egoli Beverages, the Pepsi-Cola franchise bottler of South Africa.

Earl has been very active in supporting historically black colleges and universities, with the recent contribution of \$1 million to our mutual alma mater, Morgan State University. President Clinton praised Earl's contribution as "an investment that will pay great dividends for the next generation and beyond, and I hope one that will encourage others to follow Earls lead and do their part to help expand opportunities in business and education for African-Americans."

In addition to his tremendous successes in business, Earl Graves has also been intimately involved in trying to improve the lives of all Americans. He served as an administra-

tive assistant to Senator Robert F. Kennedy from 1965 to 1968: following Senator Kennedy's assassination Earl formed his own management consulting firm to advise corporations of urban affairs and economic development.

Earl Graves has also been a long and active advocate of the Boy Scouts of America; he currently serves as the vice president, relationships/marketing and on the executive board of the national office.

The list of organizations on whose boards he voluntarily serves is as extensive as it is impressive: New American Schools Development Corporation, TransAfrica Forum; the Glass Ceiling Commission; American Museum of Natural History and Planetarium, and is chairman of the Black Business Council. Earl also serves on the board of selectors of the American Institute for Public Service, the executive committee of the Council on Competitiveness, the advisory council of the Character Education Partnership, and the board of directors of the Associates of Harvard University's Graduate School of Business Administration.

Despite all of these honors and responsibilities, Earl does not rest on his laurels. He continues to remain an active participant in all of his endeavors—a perusal of his monthly essays on the Publisher's Page of Black Enterprise magazine often leads the reader to consider such important issues as affirmative action and the fate of our national economy.

While this may be but a brief overview of the many accomplishments and contributions of Earl Graves to our Nation, it is clear that he is a remarkable man. The fact that he is willing—indeed, eager—to share his gifts makes him all the more extraordinary. We as a nation are certainly lucky to have citizens like Earl Graves among us, and it is an honor to be able to salute him.

TAYLOR MIDDLE SCHOOL—A MODEL OF EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 1996

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Department of Education has recognized Taylor Middle School in Millbrae, CA, as a "Blue Ribbon School." As a Blue Ribbon School, Taylor Middle School serves as a shining example of high-quality education for the rest of the country. The school is one of only 266 throughout our entire Nation and one of only 39 in California to be selected for this high honor.

I invite my colleagues to join me in extending our most sincere admiration and congratulations for the wonderful educational environment that Taylor Middle School provides for our young Americans. I am indeed proud to

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

have this outstanding institution in my congressional district.

Taylor Middle School has achieved this high honor through its persistent and highly effective pursuit of local, State and national education goals. These goals reflect the areas in which our educational institutions across the country are most in need of improvement. Taylor Middle School's remarkable success in overcoming some of the most difficult problems our schools face today makes it a perfect example for schools around the country to follow.

Taylor Middle School has been highly successful in fulfilling the necessary conditions of effective schooling. Through the dynamic and productive leadership of Principal Sharon Fritz, Taylor Middle School has developed a nurturing teaching environment, a rigorous and engaging curriculum, a safe environment for students and teachers, and a healthy involvement of parents and the community in strengthening educational resources. Students from Taylor convincingly demonstrate the many benefits of a good schooling environment through impressive student performances on measures of achievement, attendance rates, and the varied and ambitious pursuits of graduates of the school.

Taylor Middle School is more than deserving of the recognition it has and will continue to receive as a Blue Ribbon School. I hope that other schools across the country will be able to learn by the example of Taylor how to confront some of the seemingly intractable problems facing our educational system. I also hope that, in recognizing Taylor Middle School, my colleagues recognize the necessity of making educational excellence one of our highest priorities in the United States Congress.

A TRIBUTE TO THE "I CAN" CHOIR

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 1996

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary group of young people from the country of South Africa. These individuals are members of the "I Can" Choir, which consists of 75 male singers who range in age from 14 to 24 years, and a coed traditional dance team.

The "I Can" Choir was formed in August 1990 and has performed throughout South Africa receiving numerous honors and winning several competitions. These singers possess strong, powerful voices and because of the group's commitment and hard work, this current 4-week tour of the United States has become a reality. The choir members combine their talent with information to direct attention to and educate their audience about the development of post-apartheid South Africa.

Their participation in the Black History Month program hosted by Mayor J. Christian Bollwage and Councilwoman Patricia Perkins-Auguste of the City of Elizabeth, NJ will help make this event extra special. In addition to singing, the choir will provide the audience with information on the historical effort to abol-

ish apartheid and on actual conditions and challenges currently facing South Africa. As a member of the Subcommittee on Africa of the Committee on International Relations in the House, I am quite aware of the forces that help shape the decisions that are made in that country. I believe that it is important for our young people to use Black History Month to also become informed about conditions in African countries.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all my colleagues to join me in saluting this wonderful group of young people from South Africa, the "I Can" Choir. I think that the members of the "I Can" Choir should be commended, not only for sharing their talent with the United States, but also for educating us about their country.

IN HONOR OF HARVEY HALL

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 1996

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor an outstanding individual, Harvey Hall, who is celebrating over 25 years of providing ambulance service to the people of Kern County. Harvey accepted his first job as an ambulance driver in 1960 because he thought it might be interesting. Little did Harvey realize that his interest in riding along for the night in his buddy's ambulance would lead to a job offer, 11 years with the Flinn Ambulance Co., and then 25 years as the owner of Hall Ambulance. Mr. Speaker, for his serendipitous ride, the residents of Kern County are grateful.

The first location for Hall Ambulance was in a house that also doubled as the living quarters for Hall, his wife, and their two children. Five years later Hall and his family moved down the street, but his work was never far as Harvey brought an ambulance home with him at night. Today, the dedication to service that caused Hall to take an ambulance home with him has helped create a business that services the cities of Bakersfield, Arvin, Oildale, Tehachapi, Lamont, Mojave, Boron, California City, Rosamond, and Taft.

The list of firsts for Hall Ambulance is impressive: 1975—the first mobile intensive care paramedic service in Kern County; 1975—first nonemergency transportation for wheelchair bound; and 1985—first private mobile medical communications unit for mass casualty incidents. But before Harvey achieved this stellar record, his beginnings were rather meager.

For his service, Harvey was designated in 1990 as one of the top three ALS providers in the United States by the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians and was awarded the 1991 Paramedic EMS Service of the Year award by the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians and the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons. In 1987, he offered basic life support training throughout Kern County and as a result 2,000 people were trained to help save lives. In 1992 he put in place one of the most sophisticated state-of-the-art computer-aided emergency communication centers in the country.

If this were not enough, Harvey also sponsors an Explorer Scout troop and he is in-

volved in fundraising for the Boys and Girls Club of Bakersfield, the Police Athletic League, the Friendship House, and the Bakersfield College Foundation. In addition, Harvey has been the chairman of the Bakersfield Christmas parade for 11 years and has served on the Coalition to Protect Private Property Rights.

So Mr. Speaker, on the 25th anniversary of Hall Ambulance, congratulations and job well done to Harvey Hall for all his service to the people of Kern County.

TRIBUTE TO MAYA ANGELOU

HON. KWEISI MFUME

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 1996

Mr. MFUME. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Maya Angelou, one of the most impassioned voices not only of the African-American community but of mankind as a whole. Ms. Angelou once explained: "I speak to the black experience but I am always talking about the human condition—about what we can endure, dream, fail at and still survive." For this reason, she was tapped by President Clinton to address the Nation during his inauguration. She was the first poet, since Robert Frost spoke at the Kennedy inaugural almost 32 years prior, to address the Nation during such a moment of political change. In composing a poem for the inaugural address, she sought to remind us all that we are more alike than unlike. She credits her ability to bring people together, as well as the President's fondness of her work, for why she was chosen.

Although many Americans became aware of Ms. Angelou during the swearing-in ceremony, she has been speaking to the Nation through a variety of mediums for decades. She is a woman of many talents—an author, actress, singer, dancer, songwriter, and teacher. Although much of her written work is based on the experiences of a black woman, she always manages to make her words applicable to everyone.

It is these experiences which become the foundation of her most acclaimed work, a five-volume autobiography. The first book, I know Why the Caged Bird Sings, which received a National Book Award nomination, documents her early experiences in Arkansas, Missouri, and California. In the autobiography, she reveals the many hardships she has faced but through which she has persevered. It was through this novel that the world came to understand the obstacles she overcame. Raped at the tender age of 8 she retreated into her own world and would not utter a single word for the next 5 years. But the book also reveals the good in her life such as the birth of her only son, Guy. It is the honesty of her words which draws admirers from politicians, like myself and the President, to those who flock to hear her speak on the lecture circuit.

In her 12 books 6 of which are poetry, she has managed to write about every part of her life, focusing on such universal themes as struggle, success, love, family and identity. Her books have been a commercial and critical success. In 1972, she was nominated for

the Pulitzer Prize for *Just Give Me a Cool Drink of Water 'fore I Diiie*, a collection of 39 poems. Her poetry, which also reflects much of her life, explores the South, racial confrontation, and the strength of blacks in the face of hardship. One critic claimed that her poems "are characterized by a spontaneous joyfulness and an indomitable spirit to survive."

Ms. Angelou has also been recognized for her talents on stage and screen. Her performance in "Look Away" garnered a nomination for the prestigious Tony Award. In addition, her work in the mini-series, "Roots", earned her an Emmy Award nomination in 1977. In the same year, she received the Golden Eagle Award for the documentary *Afro-American in the Arts*.

Ms. Angelou continues to work devoting herself to helping shape the minds of your youth. Since 1981, she has been the first Reynolds Professor of American Studies at Wake Forest University. Ms. Angelou's contributions to our national culture are enormous and continue to enrich all our lives.

WILLIAM H. CROCKER MIDDLE SCHOOL; A MODEL OF EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 1996

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Department of Education has recognized William H. Crocker Middle School in Hillsborough, CA, as a blue ribbon school. As a blue ribbon school, William H. Crocker Middle School serves as a shining example of high-quality education for rest of the country. The school is one of only 266 throughout our entire Nation and only 39 in California to be selected for this high honor.

I invite my colleagues to join me in extending our most sincere admiration and congratulations for the wonderful educational environment that Crocker Middle School provides for our young Americans. I am indeed proud to have this outstanding institution in my congressional district.

William H. Crocker Middle School has achieved this high honor through its persistent and highly effective pursuit of local, State and national education goals. These goals reflect the areas in which our educational institutions across the country are most in need of improvement. Crocker Middle School's remarkable success in overcoming some of the most difficult problems our schools face today makes it a perfect example for schools around the country to follow.

Crocker Middle School has been highly successful in fulfilling the necessary conditions of effective schooling. Through the dynamic and productive leadership of Principal Daniel G. Kreuzer, Crocker Middle School has developed a nurturing teaching environment, a rigorous and engaging curriculum, a safe environment for students and teachers, and a healthy involvement of parents and the community in strengthening educational resources. Students from Crocker convincingly demonstrate the many benefits of a good school-

ing environment through impressive student performances on measures of achievement, attendance rates, and the varied and ambitious pursuits of graduates of the school.

Crocker Middle School is more than deserving of the recognition it has and will continue to receive as a blue ribbon school. I hope that other schools across the country will be able to learn by the example of Crocker how to confront some of the seemingly intractable problems facing our educational system. I also hope that, in recognizing William H. Crocker Middle School, my colleagues recognize the necessity of making educational excellence one of our highest priorities in the U.S. Congress.

THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN—TRUE AMERICAN HEROES

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 1996

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as we commemorate Black History Month, I would like my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in saluting three true American heroes who will be honored at a special ceremony in New Jersey on February 22.

On that date, as part of the County of Essex African Heritage Month celebration, a tribute will be paid to three Tuskegee Airmen—George Wamamaker, Howard L. Bragg, and George Watson, Jr.

These three men earned a place in history through their heroic actions during World War II when they served with the Tuskegee Airmen, African-American combat pilots who flew over 1,500 combat missions and shot down more than 400 enemy aircraft.

Sadly, in the segregated society of that era, these war heroes were not able to enjoy the full rights accorded to other citizens when they returned home to the United States. Through their struggles on foreign soil and at home, they remained determined, courageous, and dignified. Today, they continue to be involved in the betterment of their communities.

Their story was the subject of a theatrical production at Ford's Theater in Washington, DC, as well as a television movie which was recently aired.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in expressing our appreciation to these men of unsurpassed bravery and patriotism who put their lives on the line overseas and confronted racial injustice at home. We recognize their sacrifice and honor them for their service to our country.

MISSISSIPPI INTERSTATE COOPERATIVE RESOURCES AGREEMENT ACT

HON. STEVE GUNDERSON

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 1996

Mr. GUNDERSON. Mr. Chairman, today I am introducing the Mississippi Interstate Co-

operative Resources Agreement Act, which would provide Federal recognition for an alliance formed to protect Mississippi River Drainage Basin fishery resources. By directing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct a pilot test of the Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resources Agreement, or MICRA, the bill is intended to take an important stride in protecting the future well-being of the interjurisdictional rivers of the United States, as well as their valuable fisheries and natural resources.

NEED FOR LEGISLATION

Interjurisdictional rivers flow between, or are common to, two or more State boundaries. These rivers form large ecosystems that are important to the Nation in terms of both their economic and intrinsic values. The Mississippi River Basin includes the drainage of six such interjurisdictional rivers: the Mississippi, Ohio, Missouri, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Red Rivers. Including its tributaries, the basin contains about 98 rivers and small tributaries, sustains approximately 98 fish species, and spans 28 U.S. States.

Many fishery resources in the Mississippi River Basin have suffered serious declines over the past few decades. Many States in the basin list numerous native riverine species as threatened, endangered, or nearly eliminated. This is, in large part, due to the interjurisdictional nature of the basin. When rivers that provide critical habitat to a multitude of fish and wildlife cross State boundaries, State-sponsored resources management and preservation programs become hampered. Typically, there is no single entity that has complete responsibility for the fishery resources in the wide variety of rivers and tributaries making up the Basin. This absence of clear jurisdiction allows management of those resources to fall through the cracks.

In addition, as a shared resource, the Mississippi Basin suffers from the problem of the commons. Individual States are often hesitant to invest in interjurisdictional rivers because other States may benefit without contributing themselves. Compounding the problem is the sheer size of the resource base associated with the Mississippi Basin. For decades, States believed that management was unnecessary—the resource was limitless.

The implementation of MICRA has been a positive first step in addressing these problems by serving as a catalyst in bringing managing partners together and combining their economic and manpower resources.

MICRA'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Drafted in 1989, the Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resources Agreement was signed by the State natural resource agency directors of all 28 States by the end of 1990. In addition, the agreement has been signed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the National Biological Service, the Chickasaw Nation in Oklahoma and the Chippewa-Cree Tribe in Montana. Since its formation, one of MICRA's most important accomplishments has been to bring resource managers together in the realization that all had a strong interest in preserving and protecting fish and wildlife.

The Agreement originated from a shared concern for the welfare of the ancient

paddlefish, a species which was at one time abundant in the basin, providing robust commercial and recreational fishery opportunities. The basin States recognized the need to protect the species on a multi-State basis and joined forces to develop a common approach and share resources in protecting the paddlefish and other important species.

MICRA has since evolved to address losses in all kinds of aquatic species. Its mission has become to "improve the conservation, development, management and utilization of inter-jurisdictional fishery resources in the Mississippi River Basin through improved coordination and communication among the responsible management entities."

MICRA is administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service, which provides a full time MICRA Coordinator/Executive Secretary. The Association, composed of one representative from each member State and entity, publishes a bimonthly newsletter, called River Crossings, as its primary means of information exchange.

Included among MICRA's goals are: improving basin-wide networking and coordinating mechanisms; developing public information and education programs; identifying and prioritizing issues of concern for coordinated research; and developing compatible regulations and policies for the allocation of fishery resources.

MICRA members are aware that industry and agriculture are, like the fish and wildlife inhabiting the basin, dependent upon large rivers for transportation, irrigation, power generation and other water-dependent operations. The goal, therefore, is not to eliminate waterway development projects and uses, but to determine how those uses can exist compatibly with environmentally sound fishery resource management on a region-wide basis.

ADDRESSING FUNDING AND CONCERNS OF THE STATES

The bill I offer today provides Federal recognition for MICRA and establishes a pilot test for the implementation of that agreement. It will not impose any mandates upon the States. All of those involved in the creation of this legislation have taken great care to address concerns expressed by the States over the degree to which State prerogatives will be maintained. All the States involved in this program have become so voluntarily. Congressional acknowledgment of the Agreement would provide further opportunity to address basin-wide fishery management issues by ensuring access to Federal funding and encouraging greater support from member agencies.

Under the MICRA pilot test established by this bill, MICRA signatories would, among other matters, identify and describe the river ecosystems of the drainage basin, identify the factors most adversely affecting the basin and its resources, allow for resource-sharing among the various MICRA signatories, develop plans for restoration of fishery resources, and evaluate the possibility of extending such a program to other river basins in the United States. All of these goals will be pursued under the existing funding structure under which MICRA currently operates. The bill does not authorize any appropriations, but allows the Secretary of the Interior to use U.S. Fish and Wildlife funds to carry out the objectives.

Finally, as proposed in this bill, MICRA will not duplicate any existing organizational net-

work. Rather, coordinated resources will be used to enhance existing programs and institutions. MICRA will not only serve as a tool for protecting fisheries throughout the Mississippi River Drainage Basin, but may serve as a model for protecting fishery resources throughout the Nation as well.

SUPPORT FOR THE BILL

This bill is the result of over 3 years of consultations between myself, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, State fish and wildlife agencies and national and local chapters of the major river resource management organizations. I have attached copies of endorsement letters from many of these groups, and ask that they be included in the RECORD.

AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH, FEBRUARY 1996

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 1996

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I call to the attention of this Congress and the Nation, an effort that is taking place in my district and in places throughout the Nation. The National Daughters of the American Revolution dedicated this month, February, to be American history month. As the father of four young Americans who are 6, 14, 15, and 20 years of age, I value their education and appreciation regarding our family heritage as members of a larger family of Americans.

My ancestors were of Irish and Italian descent and were immigrants who came to the United States for a new start, a bright future, and the successes that this Nation has offered persons from throughout the world. They greatly valued the elements that make our Nation the greatest in the world. Liberty, justice, and opportunity. They assimilated into the cultural mix of the Pittsburgh suburban way of life, worked hard, raised families, and found that their differences with their neighbors gave flavor to our American community. I have lived in that community all my life and have found a strength and truly American spirit, which is found in small and large places nationwide.

I salute the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution for promoting awareness of American history and our national heritage this month. Generations of Americans from all walks of life and from all cultures have given their labor, their prayers, their very lives so that we might enjoy the fruits of democracy. I encourage my colleagues and all Americans to promote an interest by our youth in history this month and what this Nation means to all Americans.

A TRIBUTE TO HONOR NANCY WILSON

HON. KWELSI MFUME

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 1996

Mr. MFUME. Speaker, I am both pleased and proud to be here today to honor one of

the finest entertainers and the pride of Chillicothe, OH—Nancy Wilson.

Ms. Wilson's career in the performing arts has lasted some 40 plus years. Since the age of 4 years, Nancy Wilson knew she wanted to become a singer. She sang in the church choir and listened avidly to and was influenced by a litany of musical talent, among them Billy Eckstine, Louis Jordan, Ruth Brown, LaVern Baker, Nat King Cole, and big band vocalists such as Jimmy Rushing and Little Jimmy Scott.

As an active vocalist during her teenage years, Nancy Wilson sang in nightclubs and made local television appearances. And in 1956–58 she toured the Midwest and Canada with Rusty Bryant's band.

In 1959, her biggest career break came when she performed with jazz great Cannonball Adderley. She soon signed a contract with Capitol Records and in 1962 recorded an album with Adderley.

Nancy Wilson received rave reviews from several prominent jazz musicians and thereafter was booked for numerous appearances in concert halls, nightclubs, and jazz clubs throughout the United States and Europe. Her career has continued to blossom ever since.

Ms. Wilson is a "grounded in reality" kind of person. She is a woman that gives her time and talent to various charities and community projects.

The Wilson family created the Nancy Wilson Foundation to permit inner-city children to see the country and experience alternate lifestyles. She has also worked with the Martin Luther King Center for Social Change, the National Urban Coalition, and the Warwick Foundation.

Ms. Wilson is a member of the N.A.A.C.P.; the S.C.L.C.; Operation PUSH, for which she is chairperson; the President's Council for Minority Business Enterprises; the Committee for the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts; and the United Negro College Fund.

Among her many awards, Nancy Wilson earned the Johnson and Johnson Red Ruby Award, after working with the company's prenatal care promotion. Her other achievements are an Emmy in 1975 for "The Nancy Wilson Show"; the N.A.A.C.P. Image Award—1986; Grammy Award for "How Glad I Am"—1964; Entertainer of the Year Award presented by Atlantic City Magazine; the Global Entertainer of the Year Award presented by the World Conference of Mayors—1986; the Paul Robeson Humanitarian Award; first place in the 1983 Japan Song Festival Competition; and an award from the United Negro College Fund—1986.

Nancy Wilson, along with your millions of fans world-wide, and all of those whose lives you have touched with your generosity and selfless works, I thank you for the many contributions you have made.

LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL; A MODEL OF EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 1996

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Department of Education has recognized Lowell High

School in San Francisco, CA, as a Blue Ribbon School. As a Blue Ribbon School, Lowell High School serves as a shining example of high-quality education for the rest of the country. The school is 1 of only 266 throughout our entire Nation and only 39 in California to be selected for this high honor.

I invite my colleagues to join me in extending our most sincere admiration and congratulations for the wonderful educational environment that Lowell High School provides for our young Americans. I am indeed proud to have this outstanding institution in my congressional district.

Lowell High School has achieved this high honor through its persistent and highly effective pursuit of local, State and national education goals. These goals reflect the areas in which our educational institutions across the country are most in need of improvement. Lowell High School's remarkable success in overcoming some of the most difficult problems our schools face today makes it a perfect example for schools around the country to follow.

Lowell High School has been highly successful in fulfilling the necessary conditions of effective schooling. Through the dynamic and productive leadership of Principal Paul Cheng, Lowell High School has developed a nurturing teaching environment, a rigorous and engaging curriculum, a safe environment for students and teachers, and a healthy involvement of parents and the community in strengthening educational resources. Students from Lowell convincingly demonstrate the many benefits of a good schooling environment through impressive student performances on measures of achievement, attendance rates, and the varied and ambitious pursuits of graduates of the school.

Lowell High School is more than deserving of the recognition it has and will continue to receive as a Blue Ribbon School. I hope that other schools across the country will be able to learn by the example of Lowell how to confront some of the seemingly intractable problems facing our educational system. I also hope that, in recognizing Lowell High School, my colleagues recognize the necessity of making educational excellence one of our highest priorities in the U.S. Congress.

WE'RE WITH YOU KWEISI

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 1996

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and encourage a fellow Member and friend, the right Honorable KWEISI MFUME, on this the occasion of his acceptance of the challenge and opportunity of leading a great national organization, the NAACP. I will not restate all of the accomplishments of KWEISI MFUME as a man or a U.S. Representative. Others have done that quite eloquently. I just want to add that I believe that in his life and work, Mr. MFUME has set an example to which any of today's young people can proudly aspire. Each step he takes marks yet another significant achievement.

During his tenure in the House of Representatives, Congressman MFUME has consistently advocated landmark minority business and civil rights legislation. He has succeeded in focusing Congressional attention on a broad range of minority business development concerns in the United States. His work as chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus has been exemplary. And, we all look to his leadership in his role as chair of the CBC Task Force to Preserve Affirmative Action.

Those of us who have had the privilege of working closely with him over the years have come to admire his genteel grace and leadership. I know he will bring renewed stature to the NAACP.

God speed KWEISI MFUME, God speed.

A TRIBUTE TO GOVERNOR LUTALI

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 1996

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, all Americans, including those of us in Congress, are concerned about the destruction of the rain forests that is occurring all over the world. The rain forests constitute unique and irreplaceable ecosystems sometimes called the lungs of the earth. In addition to their function in replenishing the earth's atmosphere, the rain forests provide essential protection against global warming, contain hundreds of plants found nowhere else on earth, house many animals unique to the rain forests alone, and provide protection against destruction of coral reefs and marine life. I would like to call my colleagues' attention to a unique effort to save these vital systems and to an individual who is being honored for his own efforts to save the rain forests.

Seacology Foundation is a nonprofit foundation founded to help protect island ecosystems and island cultures. Seacology scientists include experts in endangered species, island flora and fauna, and island ecosystems. One hundred percent of the money donated to Seacology goes directly to building schools, hospitals, installing safe water supplies, and meeting the other needs of the indigenous people who live near the rain forests so that these people will not have to sell off the rain forest to survive. Seacology scientists donate their time as well.

The Honorable A.P. Lutali, Governor of American Samoa, has been selected to receive this year's Seacology Foundation Award as "Indigenous Conservationist of the Year" in recognition of his superb efforts to preserve the Samoan rain forest and indigenous Samoan culture. Governor Lutali's efforts include responsibility for passage of an act to protect the American Samoa flying fox and our joint work to create the U.S. National Park in American Samoa. As a letter from Seacology Foundation to Governor Lutali notifying him of the award explains, neither of these achievements would have occurred without the Governor's strong leadership and support.

I congratulate Governor Lutali and the Seacology Foundation for all of their efforts and I am submitting for the record a copy of

a letter from Paul Alan Cox, Ph.D, chairman of the board of Seacology Foundation to Governor Lutali for review by my colleagues.

OCTOBER 24, 1995.

Governor A.P. LUTALI,
Office of the Governor, American Samoa Government, Pago Pago, American Samoa.

DEAR GOVERNOR LUTALI: On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Scientific Advisory Board of the Seacology Foundation, it gives me great pleasure to inform you that you have been selected as the 1995 Indigenous Conservationist of the Year. This award, believed to be the only one of its kind in the world, annually recognizes an indigenous person who has demonstrated heroic efforts in protecting the environment. The Seacology Foundation invites you, at our expense, to attend an award dinner in your honor and a presentation ceremony in Provo, Utah to receive your award, which will consist of an engraved plaque and a cash award of \$1,000. Lorraine Clark, Executive Associate Director of the Seacology Foundation, will be in touch with Rob Shaffer from your staff to arrange a convenient date for this event.

In making this award, the Seacology Foundation wishes to recognize your personal courage and foresight in protecting the rainforests and wildlife of American Samoa. You have demonstrated your commitment to conservation in many different ways. Examples of your environmental leadership include passage of an act to protect flying foxes, including the rare Samoan Flying Fox, *Pteropus samoensis*, or *pe'a vao* by the Territorial Legislature of American Samoa. Your leadership was crucial in passing this legislation, which is believed to be the first legislation enacted by any Pacific island government to protect flying foxes. Because of your example, many other island governments have now enacted similar legislation.

Even more impressive was your visionary foresight in establishing the 50th National Park of the United States of America, the National Park of American Samoa. It was your leadership and your vision that brought together a coalition of Samoan school children, villagers, *matai* and other traditional community leaders, Territorial officials, scientists, conservationists, and U.S. Congressmen to create a new future for the people of American Samoa. You personally held meetings with key scientists and village leaders, you personally hosted a distinguished congressional delegation in Samoa, you personally traveled to Washington, D.C. to testify on behalf of the park and you personally provided leadership at every phase to assure passage of the enabling legislation. You exercised this leadership without any concern for its potential impact on your own political future. Because of your selflessness and bi-partisan approach, the American Samoa National Park Bill became one of the first national park bills to pass both houses of the United States Congress without a single dissenting vote. You played a key role in guaranteeing that the aspirations and well being of Samoan villages were paramount in the enabling legislation. Unique land acquisition techniques, revolving around long term leases were used under your direction. Village chiefs were guaranteed important roles in formulating park policy. The Samoan language and culture are to be highlighted in all park activities. As a result of your foresight, American Samoa will have a National Park that will preserve both Samoan wildlife and Samoan culture.

Many other examples of your conservation leadership could be cited. The Territorial Division of Wildlife and Marine Resources

under your leadership has made important progress in evaluating and protecting the wildlife of American Samoa. Coastal Zone Management has flourished under your leadership. But perhaps most important has been your quiet personal example. You quietly led an effort to re-introduce the rare Samoan *toloa* or duck to your home island of Aunu'u. The crack of dawn has frequently found you on your hands and knees weeding the garden plot in front of the territorial offices. Many have seen you picking up rubbish and doing your own part as a private citizen to beautify the exquisite islands of American Samoa.

Because of your stellar service, both public and private to conservation, and because of the tremendous example of dedication and courage that you have set for your own people—the Polynesian Islanders—and for indigenous peoples throughout the world, the Seacology Foundation is pleased to bestow upon you the most distinguished award for indigenous conservation in the world by naming you Indigenous Conservationist of the Year 1995. We offer you our sincere appreciation for your tremendous devotion to protecting this planet.

Warmest personal regards,
NAFANUA PAUL ALAN COX, Ph.D.,
Chairman of the Board.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT L. JOHNSON,
PRESIDENT AND CEO OF BET

HON. KWEISI MFUME

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 1996

Mr. MFUME. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Robert L. Johnson, the president and CEO of BET Holdings, the only publicly traded media company that primarily targets African-Americans. At the heart of BET Hold-

ings is Black Entertainment Television, which operates the Nation's first and only advertiser-supported, basic cable television programming service that serves as both a cultural center and an information source for BET's target audience.

Some of us know Bob from his days here on Capitol Hill, where he served as press secretary to our distinguished colleague, Walter Fauntroy, the delegate from the District of Columbia. Others may have become acquainted with Bob during his tenure as vice president for government relations for the National Cable Television Association [NCTA]. In any event, Bob's current work with BET has allowed many of us in the African-American community to become familiar with him and the tremendous services he provides to African-Americans throughout the Nation.

Bob began BET with \$15,000 of his own money and \$500,000 from the cable industry's biggest company. Tele-Communications, Inc. In 1991, Bob made history when he took BET's parent company, BET Holdings, Inc., public. BET Holdings became the first company controlled by an African-American to be traded on the New York City Stock Exchange.

Today BET is available in more than 39 million homes, 24 hours a day, from Los Angeles to New York to Baltimore to smaller markets, such as Rapid City, SD. BET's current programming consists of a mix of black music videos, black collegiate sports, news, and original programming, such as late night talk shows public affairs series, one-act plays, and teen magazine shows.

Most recently, Bob Johnson and BET have teamed up with the computer company Microsoft in a venture aimed at making on-line services more accessible and more desirable to African-Americans. Specifically, BET and Microsoft will develop a new company which will produce interactive information for and

about African-Americans. While most of the material will be made available on the Microsoft Network, the new company also hopes to produce information for the internet and for CD-ROM's. The goal is to create, Bob says, " * * * an independent and interactive voice for African Americans."

As exciting and invigorating as this new venture may be, many of us would have expected no less from Bob. He saw an area in which African-Americans were under represented and he sought to fill the void: African-Americans use home computing technology at a far lower rate than white American households. According to a 1994 survey by the U.S. Census Bureau, 28.6 percent of white households had computers, compared with 11.1 percent of black households. By trying to get more blacks interested in and comfortable with computers and the Internet, Bob is attempting to ensure that African-Americans are not left out of the information revolution.

A review of the many awards, Bob has received throughout his distinguished career is a testimony to his drive and his dedication. In 1995 he received the Cablevision Magazine 20/20 Vision Award; in 1993 the Turner Broadcasting Trumpet Award; in 1992 Bob won the Executive Leadership Council Award; in 1985 the D.C. Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award; in 1984 the Capital Press Club's Pioneer Award; and in 1982 he won both the NAACP's Image Award as well as the NCTC's President's award.

Bob Johnson exemplifies all that is possible in America; he has used his skills and his know-how to become a successful businessman. He also represents all that is good about this country, as he has consistently chosen to use his talents and his resources to give something back to his community and to help others.